



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Harald BAUER, et al.

Application No.: 10/021,596

Group No.: 1751

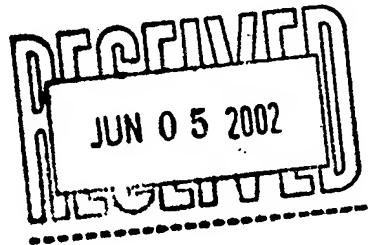
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Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR §1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith).

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:
 - 1a. Form PTO-1449.
 - 1b. Copies of Information Disclosure Statement citations.
 - 1c. EPO Search Report for application no. 01128892, mail date of April 4, 2002.
2. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(b) with the filing of the U.S. patent application. Accordingly, no fee or §1.97(e) Statement is required.
3. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(b) before the latter of three months after the U.S. patent application filing date or the first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee or §1.97(e) Statement is required.
4. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(c) after the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance. The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(c) is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 03-2060.

5. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(e) in that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. Accordingly, no fee is required.
6. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in conjunction with a Request For Continued Examination. Accordingly, no fee or §1.97(e) Statement is required.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449		
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		
(37 CFR 1.98(b))		
		
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SERIAL NO. 10/021,596		
APPLICANT: Harald BAUER, et al.		
FILING DATE: 12/12/01 GROUP: 1751		

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						

FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN APPLICATION

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUB. DATE	COUNTRY			TRANSLATION
CB	BA	36 03 471	8/6/87	Germany			See CB Below
CB	BB	0 262 358	4/6/88	Europe			See CC Below
CB	BC	01/27236	4/19/01	WIPO			See CD Below
CB	BD	01/32820	5/10/01	WIPO			See CE Below
CB	BE	01/83662	11/8/01	WIPO			Abstract
CB	BF	01/96511	12/20/01	WIPO			English
	BG						

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication**)

CB	CA		EPO Search Report, for application no. 01128892, mail date 4/4/2002				
CB	CB		English abstract for DE 3603471, 8/6/1987				
CB	CC		English abstract for EP 0262358, 4/6/1988				
CB	CD		English abstract for WO 01/27236, 4/19/01				
CB	CE		English abstract for WO 01/32820, 5/10/2001				
			RECEIVED JUN 9 8 2002 TC 1700				
CC							
EXAMINER	<i>Charles Boyce</i>		DATE CONSIDERED	10/13/03			
EXAMINER: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							